



BLOCKBUSTER™

TALES OF THE MARVELS





TRISTAN '94

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YOU KNOW THAT STORY
THAT SAYS, IT A TIME
TRAVELLER STEPS ON A
BUTTERFLY IN ONE
MILLION B.C., IT
WOULD CHANGE LIFE AS
WE KNOW IT? I USED
TO THINK ABOUT THAT
A LOT.

BUT FOR ME,
IT WASN'T A
BUTTERFLY,
AND IT WASN'T
A MILLION
YEARS AGO.

IT WAS A ONCE
HUMAN-THING THAT
WENT INTO SPACE
AND SOAKED UP A
DOSE OF COSMIC
RAYS.

AND IT WAS FIVE
YEARS AGO, IN
QUEENS.

QUEENS
MIDDTOWN
TUNNEL

7002 OCEAN AVENUE,
FLUSHING, QUEENS.

...COMMUTERS
ARE ALERTED
THAT POLICE ARE
EVACUATING A THREE
BLOCK AREA AROUND
THE QUEENS SIDE
OF THE MIDTOWN
TUNNEL --

...WHERE
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR ARE
ENGAGED IN A
BATTLE
WITH...

CAN
WE CHANGE
CHANNELS,
PLEASE?!

I CAN STILL SEE THEM,
THE WAY THEY WERE THAT
DAY IN JUNE.

JULES,
THIS IS
NEWS!

JUST A
HYPER-THYROID
FIGHT -- NOT
WORTH MISSING
ONE MINUTE
OF THE
GAME.

I SWEAR,
YOU'RE JUST LIKE
YOUR SON, SOMETIMES.
GET SOMETHIN' IN YOUR
HEAD, AND YOU'RE JUST
LIKE A MULE ABOUT IT...

WHEN I WAS A COP, I THOUGHT
I'D SEEN EVERYTHING.

CRUELTY,
CORRUPTION,
RANDOM
ACTS OF
VIOLENCE...

YOU
WANT TO
WATCH
THE
KNICKS?

I'D
RATHER WATCH
THEM THAN THESE
FREAKS.

THEY KEPT ME
GROUNDED.
THEY WERE MY
ANCHOR.

IT WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE, ME
BEING HIRED TO WATCH THEIR
BUILDING AT THAT TIME...

...TO WATCH THIS GUY,
DR. RONALD BURNS.

Mmm, I
LIKE YOUR PLACE,
RON. ARE YOU SURE
NO ONE CAN SEE
US?

FROM
MANHATTAN?
I DON'T THINK
SO.

YOU'RE
NOT WORRIED
ABOUT YOUR
WIFE?

SHE'S
TOO BUSY
PARTYING WITH
SOME NINETEEN-
YEAR-OLD PUNK
ROCKER TO
WORRY ABOUT
ME.

I WAS NEVER FAR FROM
MY POLKS IN THOSE
LAST DAYS...

0170.

H.M 4.24k

...WATCHING DR. BURNS COMMIT
ADULTERY IS A VARIETY OF WAYS.

ARE YOU
GOING TO DUMP
ME WHEN I GET
A FEW
WRINKLES?

NOT
YOU, KIM.
YOU'VE GOT
GREAT BONE
STRUCTURE...

AS A COP, I THOUGHT
I'D SEEN IT ALL.

THEN I WENT PRIVATE
AND I SAW EVEN MORE.
I THINK THE DOCTOR
REALLY LOVED THE
GIRL.

...I
CAN KEEP
YOU LOOKING
LIKE NINETEEN
FOR YEARS.

IDIOT...

I SHOULD'VE
CALLED THEM.
I WAS GOING
TO.

THEN A FLASH OF LIGHT
CAUGHT MY EYE, FROM THE
DOWHILL APARTMENT.

NOW HAD TOLD ME
THE DOWHILLS
WERE IN BARBADOS.

I'D LIKE TO
REPORT A
BURGLARY IN
PROGRESS...

...NEVER
MIND WHO
THIS IS...





...UNTIL IT
WAS TOO LATE.



...THAT DAY
IN JUNE...



... WHEN MY
WORLD FELL
APART.



BLITZKRIEG



MOM!
DAD!

MAIN STREET
FLUSHING
NEXT EXIT

COME ON...
MOVE IT!

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

I WAS CLOSE, BUT
I WAS FRANTIC...

...DESPERATE TO KNOW
THEY WERE STILL ALIVE.

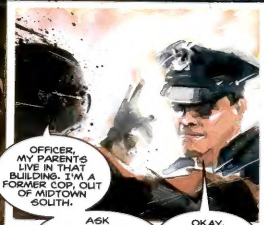
...TO
TELL THEM
TO SEND MORE
AMBULANCES!

...STAND
BACK...

HELP ME,
SOMEBODY!
HELP!

...MORE
WATER
PRESSURE...

...SORRY,
BUDDY.



OFFICER,
MY PARENTS
LIVE IN THAT
BUILDING. I'M A
FORMER COP, OUT
OF MIDTOWN
SOUTH.

ASK
THE M-E, HIBBS,
OR CAPTAIN STERN --
THEY'LL VOUCH FOR
ME.

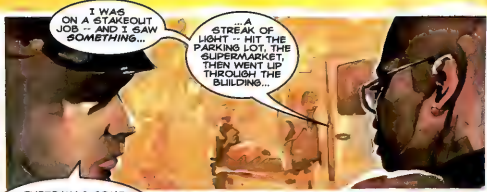
OKAY,
OKAY. WHAT'S
YOUR PARENTS'
NAMES?



STEWART --
BOB AND LIANNE
STEWART.

WAIT
HERE.





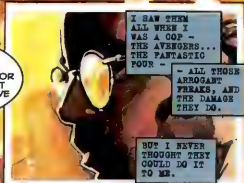
I WAS
ON A STAKEOUT
JOB -- AND I SAW
SOMETHING...

A
STREAK OF
LIGHT -- HIT THE
PARKING LOT, THE
SUPERMARKET,
THEN WENT UP
THROUGH THE
BUILDING...

THERE WAS SOME
DISTURBANCE, STARTED
NEAR THE MIDTOWN TUNNEL,
INVOLVING THE FANTASTIC
FOUR...

DOCTOR
DOOM WAS
IN ON IT -- HE
HAD SOME KIND
OF GENETICALLY-
ALTERED
FREAK...

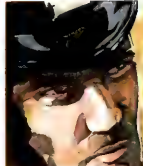
WE GOT
THE COPS IN
MIDTOWN TRYING
TO REACH THE FF FOR
A STATEMENT, BUT
THEY SEEM TO HAVE
VANISHED...



I SAW THEM
ALL WHEN I
WAS A COP --
THE AVENGERS...
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR --

-- ALL THOSE
ARROGANT
FREAKS, AND
THE DAMAGE
THEY DO.

BUT I NEVER
THOUGHT THEY
COULD DO IT
TO ME.



I DON'T THINK I'VE
FELT ANYTHING SINCE
THAT WASN'T TINGED
BY THAT ANGER...

YOU
KNOW WHO
DID IT. WHEN DO
YOU MAKE AN
ARREST?

AIN'T
THAT EASY,
STEWART.

HANG
IN THERE
KID.

DOOM'S
GOT DIPLOMATIC
IMMUNITY, AND THE FF
WEREN'T DIRECTLY
INVOLVED
IN...

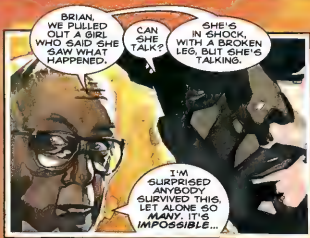
LIKE
HELL!

I
SAW
IT...



THIS
DAMNED
CITY -- IF YOU'RE
NOT GOING TO DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT THIS,
I WILL.

YOU'RE
NOT A COP
ANYMORE, STEWART.
COOL OFF. WE DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHO'S
RESPONSIBLE.



"... A MIRACLE
IS WHAT IT IS..."



CRACK

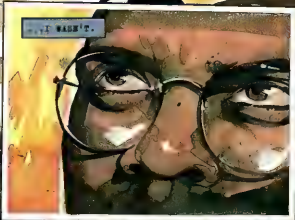
THEY CALLED IT
A MIRACLE. AN
ACT OF GOD. AN
UNNATURAL NATURAL
DISASTER.

AFRAID TO
SEE IT FOR
WHAT IT WAS.

MURDER.

AND IF THEY
WERE AFRAID TO
DO SOMETHING...

...I WASH IT.





IT'S OKAY
MISS WEIS.
YOU'RE GOING
TO BE ALL
RIGHT.

MY
MOTHER...



I'M SORRY... WE DON'T
KNOW YET. WE'RE STILL
SEARCHING FOR SURVIVORS.
CAN YOU TELL ME
WHAT YOU
SAW?

I WAS
WATCHING
THE STARS...
THROUGH A TELE-
SCOPE... WHEN
A SILVER MAN
STREAKED
DOWN...

"... HE LANDED IN FRONT
OF THE SUPERMARKET.
AND GRABBED THIS
OTHER GUY..."

"... THEN I SAW A FIREBALL...
COMING AT THE BUILDING...
I HEARD MOTHER SCREAM..."



"... SOMETHING PUSHED ME
OUT OF THE WAY... ALMOST
AS IF I WERE FLOATING..."

THE
SILVER MAN
WAS IDENTIFIED
AS THE SILVER
SURFER. DID YOU
RECOGNIZE
THE OTHER?

I
DON'T
KNOW. HE
LOOKED
LIKE THE
DEVIL...

ROSEWOOD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

OH
MY GOD,
THAT'S DOCTOR
BURNS! WHAT
HAPPENED?

HIS
BUILDING
EXPLODED.

WHAT?
WAS
THERE A GAS
LEAK?

NO...
EXTRA-
TERRESTRIALS,
FIGHTING...

BURNS
USED THIS
OP JUST LAST
WEEK. GAVE A
CONGRESSMAN'S
WIFE A FACE-
LIFT.

HORRIBLE!
AND
APPARENTLY
HE WASN'T
ALONE.

I TALKED TO A COP,
SAID SHE WAS
BURNED TO A
CRISP.

THAT
SHOULD
MAKE MRS.
BURNS
HAPPY.

YOU
DON'T
THINK *SHE*
DID IT, DO
YOU?

Oh,
PLEASE,
BEV. THE POLICE
SAID IT WAS SOME
KIND OF SUPER-
POWERED
BROUHAMA.

REALLY?
WELL, THERE
OUGHT TO BE
A LAW AGAINST
THEM, TEARING
UP THE
CITY...

THEY'RE
STILL DIGGING
UP PEOPLE OUT
THERE... FIFTEEN
CC MORPHINE,
PLEASE.

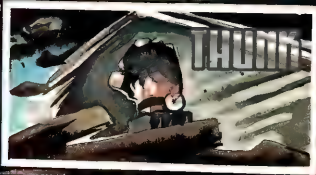
BURN
UNIT

BURN
UNIT

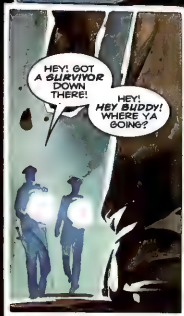
AND TELL
THE ER STAFF
TO PULL IN THE
STRINGERS...

IT'S GONNA BE
A BUSY NIGHT."

I
NEED THE
SONAR-SCOPE
OVER HERE! I
THINK I HEARD
SOMETHING!

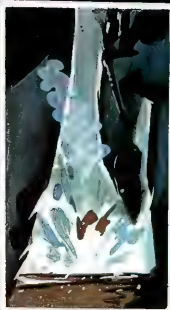


GEEZE...
oh,
GEEZE...



HEY! GOT
A SURVIVOR
DOWN
THERE!

HEY!
HEY BUDDY!
WHERE YA
GOING?



POOR GUY MUST BE
IN SHOCK. HE'S
NOT COMING
UP...

I AIN'T
GOIN' IN
THERE. NOTIFY
THE RIVER
PATROL.



LIKE
TWO GODS...
PEOPLE ARE JUST
INSECTS TO THEM.
TORE THROUGH THAT
BUILDING LIKE IT
WAS PAPER
MACHE.



I'VE
GOTTA
CHANGE. GOT
TO MAKE
SOMETHING OF
MYSELF AND
BUY THAT
LOT...



ROSEWOOD MEMORIAL

HOW'S
DOCTOR
BURNS
DOING?

NOT
VERY WELL,
DOCTOR. HE...
HE KNOWS HOW
BADLY HE'S
BEEN
BURNED.

HAS HIS WIFE
BEEN IN YET?

NOT
YET.

WHY
NOT?

"YOU DIDN'T KNOW THEY
WERE HAVING PROBLEMS?
I THINK SHE'S JUST SUEED
HIM FOR DIVORCE."

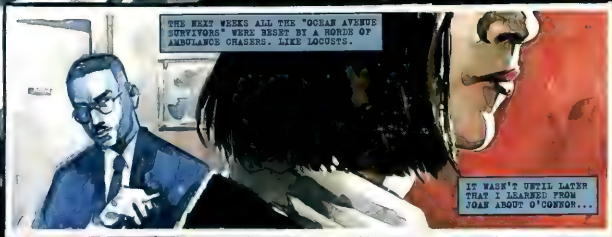
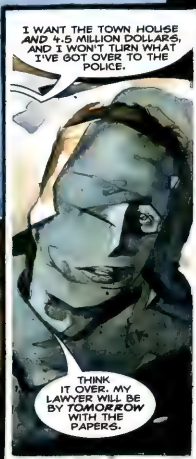
"OH MY GOD.
HERE SHE
COMES."

"CARRY ON,
MILLIE. I'LL
TALK TO HER."

DOCTOR RODRIGUEZ,
I'M JANE BURNS. I'M
HERE TO SEE MY
HUSBAND.

OF COURSE.
I'M VERY SORRY
THIS HAPPENED TO YOUR
HUSBAND, MRS. BURNS...

I'M
NOT.

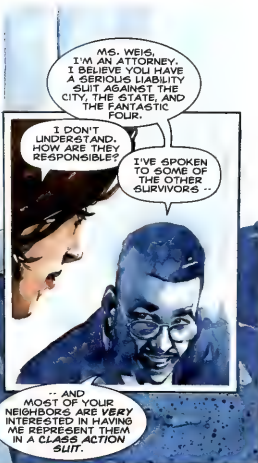




MS. WEIS? I'M
MARTIN O'CONNOR.
I'M VERY SORRY TO
LEARN OF YOUR
TRAGEDY.

THANK
YOU, MISTER
O'CONNOR.

THAT'S
WHY I'M HERE
TO **HELP** YOU.
MAY I SIT
DOWN?



MS. WEIS,
I'M AN ATTORNEY.
I BELIEVE YOU HAVE
A SERIOUS LIABILITY
SUIT AGAINST THE
CITY, THE STATE, AND
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.
HOW ARE THEY
RESPONSIBLE?

I'VE SPOKEN
TO SOME OF
THE OTHER
SURVIVORS ..

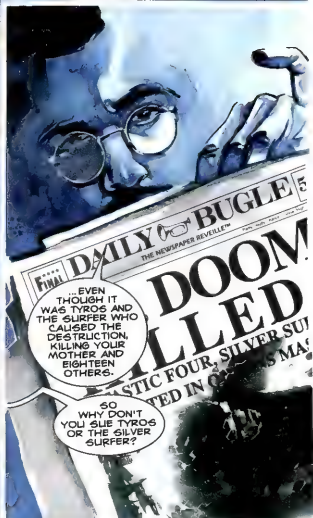
-- AND
MOST OF YOUR
NEIGHBORS ARE VERY
INTERESTED IN HAVING
ME REPRESENT THEM
IN A **CLASS ACTION**
SUIT.



YOU'VE LOST YOUR
MOTHER, FORGIVE ME,
AS WELL AS ALL OF
YOUR EARTHLY
POSSESSIONS...

BUT I
DON'T SEE
HOW THE
CITY OR THE
FANTASTIC
FOUR ARE
RESPON-
SIBLE.

I BELIEVE
WE CAN PROVE
THE BATTLE WAS
INSTIGATED BY
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR...



...EVEN
THOUGH IT
WAS TYROS AND
THE SURFER WHO
CAUSED THE
DESTRUCTION,
KILLING YOUR
MOTHER AND
EIGHTEEN
OTHERS.

SO
WHY DON'T
YOU SUE TYROS
OR THE SILVER
SURFER?



TYROS
IS DECEASED,
AND THIS SLURFER
FELLOW APPEARS
A TRANSIENT WITH
NO TANGIBLE
ASSETS...

EXCEPT
THAT BOARD,
BUT I DON'T
THINK HE'S
GOING TO PART
WITH THAT.

BUT THIS
WOULDN'T HAVE
HAPPENED IF THE
FANTASTIC FOUR WEREN'T
IN MANHATTAN. THAT
BUILDING CONSTITUTES
AN **UNACCEPTABLE**
LEVEL OF RISK.



OVER THE
YEARS THEY'VE
STARTED, OR
PARTICIPATED IN,
ACTIONS COSTING
THE STATES OF
NEW YORK AND NEW
JERSEY OVER
2.5 BILLION
DOLLARS IN
DAMAGES.



THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAVE
OVER A HALF BILLION DOLLARS
IN ASSETS, YET THEY'RE
INADEQUATELY COVERED
AS FAR AS LIABILITY
INSURANCE.

STOP,
PLEASE...

THIS
IS THE 95TH
INSTANCE IN
WHICH THE
FANTASTIC FOUR
HAVE BEEN
INVOLVED...



I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M
HEARING. THE FANTASTIC FOUR
HAVE SAVED THE EARTH FROM
DESTRUCTION SEVERAL TIMES
IF NOT FOR THEM WE WOULDN'T
EVEN BE HERE.

WE
ONLY HAVE
THEIR WORD
FOR THAT...



I DON'T THINK
I CAN HELP
YOU, MISTER
O'CONNOR.



I WAS TRYING
TO HELP YOU,
MS. WEIS. YOU
HAVE MY
CARD.

IF YOU
CHANGE YOUR
MIND, YOU
KNOW WHERE
TO FIND
ME.

BUT THEY WEREN'T
ALL
B.A.L.

THERE WAS A SURVIVOR,
A PARALEGAL NAMED JAY
NATHAN, TRIED GOING
AFTER SOME STATE AID
SOME KIND OF DISASTER
RELIEF.

SORRY
TO KEEP YOU
WAITING, MR.
NATHAN, BUT
I STILL DON'T
SEE HOW
I CAN
HELP YOU.

REALLY?
YOU DON'T
THINK WHAT
HAPPENED
WAS A
DISASTER?

OF COURSE --
BUT LEGALLY, IT
DOESN'T QUALIFY FOR
STATE OR FEDERAL
AID. IT'S WHAT F.E.M.A.
CALLS AN UNNATURAL
DISASTER.

WE'RE NOT
EQUIPPED TO PICK
UP THE TAB FOR
THAT TYPE OF
SKIRMISH.

BULL.

EXCUSE
ME, BUT THIS IS
NO DIFFERENT FROM
A TORNADO OR AN
EARTHQUAKE!

JANET SPAGO
DIRECTOR

SIX MONTHS AFTER
THE DISASTER, HE
HAD NO GOOD NEWS.

THE STATE
AND FEDS DON'T CONSIDER
THIS A NATURAL DISASTER.
ANYBODY GETTING RELIEF FROM
THEIR PERSONAL INSURANCE
COMPANIES?

MR. NATHAN, MY
COMPANY WON'T GIVE ME
A CENT -- THERE'S AN
"UNNATURAL DISASTER"
EXCLUSION...

I
SYMPATHIZE, BUT
THE FACT IS, IF F.E.M.A.
ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THIS TYPE OF INCIDENT,
WE'D GO BUST IN A
NEW YORK MINUTE.

LOOK, I
WARNED
YOU THIS
WOULD BE A
LONG, HARD
JOURNEY.

THE WHOLE ROOM WAS
FILLED WITH TRAGEDIES
TO BE LAID AT THE
SURFER'S FEET.

I DON'T
SEE WHERE WE
HAVE ANY CHOICE,
MR. NATHAN. I'M
STAYING WITH MY
AUNT.

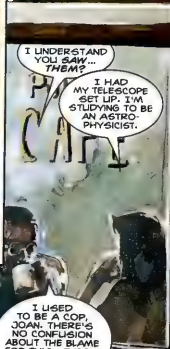
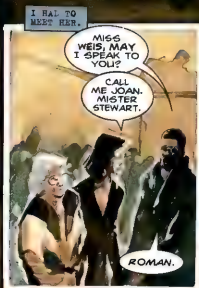
I CAN'T
COLLECT ON MY
MOTHER'S LIFE
INSURANCE -- THEY
CLAIM IT WAS AN
ACT OF GOD. I
MEAN, WHO CAN
WE BLAME?

IF WE DO
GO TO TRIAL, THE
COURT MAY RULE
THAT SO-CALLED
SUPER-HEROES AREN'T
RESPONSIBLE FOR
UNINTENDED
CONSEQUENCES...

...APPEALS
COULD TAKE
YEARS. IT'S
POSSIBLE SOME OF
YOU WILL NEVER LIVE
TO RECEIVE BENEFITS.
BUT WE'RE NOT
GIVING UP...

AT
LEAST I HAVE
A SCHOLARSHIP
TO EMPIRE STATE
UNIVERSITY...

THAT'S WHEN I FIRST NOTICED
JOAN. SHE SPOKE WITH A
CERTAIN PASSION.





DIFFERENT FORMS OF ENERGY HAVE DIFFERENT SIGNATURES -- PATTERNS OF ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVES.

I HOPE TO STUDY WAYS TO ISOLATE THE SIGNATURES IN EXTRATERRESTRIALS, AND SUPER-POWERED BEINGS.

BY STUDYING THEIR ENERGY, WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP THEM HARNESS IT MORE EFFECTIVELY.

OR TO TURN IT AGAINST THEM.

BUT I COULDN'T REVEAL TO HER THE FORCE OF MY YUJI. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT MYSELF.

THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT HER -- UNBLEMISHED... INNOCENT.



I DID A PAPER ON IT FOR A SCIENCE FAIR THAT WON A SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP AT ESU.

CONGRATULATIONS. LISTEN, LET'S STAY IN TOUCH. I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW YOUR RESEARCH GOES.

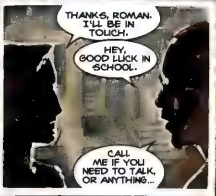
WELL, WE ARE BOTH OCEAN AVENUE SURVIVORS.

LET ME GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME. I MEAN, YOUR HOME...



YOU MEAN TO MY ALINT'S HOUSE.

YEAH... YEAH.

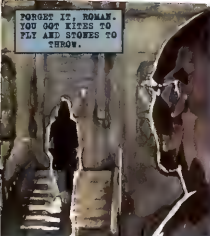


THANKS, ROMAN. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.

HEY, GOOD LUCK IN SCHOOL.

CALL ME IF YOU NEED TO TALK, OR ANYTHING...

THE HEART IS A STUPID BEAST. I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO BE HER FATHER. NOT TO MENTION THE RACIAL THING.



FORGET IT, ROMAN. YOU GOT KITES TO FLY AND STONES TO THROW.

TWO YEARS
LATER.

CLYDE,
WE'VE DONE
SOME CRAZY
STUFF AND MADE
SOME MONEY --
BUT NOW YOU'RE
STEPPIN' ON
THE BIG MAN'S
TOES.

YOU DON'T
MESS WITH
THE KINGPIN.
THE DUDE ISB
DAREDEVIL--

-- THIS
IS TOO
BIG A
RISK.

BOBBY, CHILL. THERE'S
NO RISK. THE KINGPIN'S
FIGHTING A WAR WITH
THE PUNISHER, AND
WE'RE BENEATH HIS
RADAR...

...FOR
NOW.

IT'S
THAT "FOR
NOW" THAT
WORRIES ME.

WHAT D'YOU
SUPPOSE HE'D DO
TO US IF HE FOUND
OUT WE JACKED
ONE OF HIS
TRUCKS?

NOT
HIS TRUCKS,
BOBBY. THIS IS
A FREE COUNTRY --
ANYONE CAN
HIJACK A TRUCK
IF THEY
WANT.

ARE YOU KIDDING?
THE KINGPIN OWNS
ROUTE ONE, NORTH OF
CAROLINA.

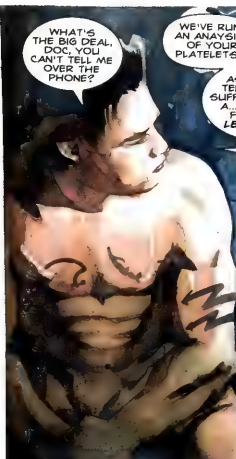
REMEMBER
THOSE THREE
JERSEY GUN'S RIPPED
OFF THAT GUN TRUCK?
FISHED 'EM OUT OF
THE EAST RIVER,
A WEEK
LATER.

GUNS,
SURE, BUT
HOW OFTEN
DOES THAT
HAPPEN?

HE'S
NOT GOING
TO GO TO WAR
OVER A TRUCK-
LOAD OF
SHRIMP.

I'M SMALL
FRY, BOBBY.
I GOTTA EAT
FAST AND GET
BIGGER TO KEEP
FROM BEING
EATEN.





WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL, DOC. YOU CAN'T TELL ME OVER THE PHONE?

WE'VE RUN AN ANALYSIS OF YOUR PLATELETS...

NEAR AS WE CAN TELL, YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM A... UNIQUE... FORM OF LEUKEMIA.

WHAT?

HOW... HOW LONG HAVE I HAD IT?

A FORM OF CANCER. SOMETHING IS ATTACKING YOUR RED BLOOD CELLS THAT LOOKS LIKE CANCER, BUT IN A WAY I'VE NEVER SEEN.

HARD TO TELL... PERHAPS TWO, THREE YEARS. YOU SHOULD HAVE YOURSELF CHECKED MORE OFTEN.

BUT DON'T HIT THE PANIC BUTTON -- WE STILL HAVE MORE TESTS TO RUN.

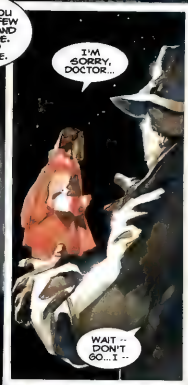
-- WITH THE PROPER TREATMENT, YOU CAN LIVE A NORMAL LIFE FOR YEARS...

MY SHIFT IS OVER. I'M GOING HOME, POUR MYSELF A GLASS OF WINE, AND SOAK IN THE TUB.

LUCKY YOU.

WANT SOMEONE TO WALK YOU TO YOUR CAR?

FORGET ABOUT IT. I GOT A CAN OF MACE AND AN ITCHY TRIGGER FINGER.



"... I CAN'T
HELP YOU.





YO, DOC,
HOW'S SHE
HANGIN'?

HELLO
OHIO.

GOT
ANY
JUICE?

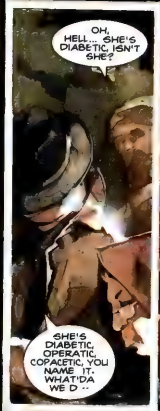
SORRY.

DOCTOR!
DOCTOR!



WHAT
IS IT,
RYAN?

SUNSHINE
MARY'S
HAVIN' A FIT!
TAKE A LOOK
AT HER?

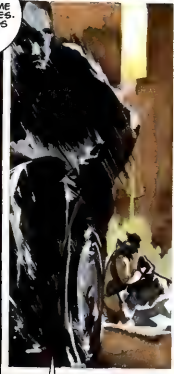


OH,
HELL... SHE'S
DIABETIC, ISN'T
SHE?

SHE'S
DIABETIC,
OPERATIC,
COPACETIC, YOU
NAME IT.
WHAT'DA
WE D...



HERE,
MARY. EAT
THIS. RYAN,
RUSTLE UP SOME
CARBOHYDRATES.
I THINK OHIO'S
HOARDING
SUGAR
PACKETS.



YEAH --
HE GOES
INTO CHOCK FULL
O' MILK AND GRABS
HANDFULS BEFORE
THEY KICK HIM
OUT.

I TELL
YA, LORD
WAS LOOKIN'
OUT FOR US WHEN
HE SENT YOU 'ROUND
HERE, DOC! DON'T
KNOW WHAT WE'D
DO WIT'OUT
YOU...

MUST
BE NICE

"...TO HAVE SOMEONE
LOOKING OUT FOR YOU..."



HIJACK
ON U.S. ONE
LAST NIGHT, JUST
NORTH OF ATLANTIC
CITY, MISTER FISK.
ANOTHER POPPA
CRAW SHRIMP
TRUCK.

WHO?

WE
DON'T
KNOW,
YET.

LET
ME KNOW AS
SOON AS YOU
FIND OUT, MALTESE,
BUT TAKE NO
ACTION.

DEALING
WITH HOWARD
NEES AND THE
PUNISHER MUST
OCCUPY MY FULL
ATTENTION, FOR
NOW.

YOU
MAY
GO.

I AM BESET BY FOOLS,
TRAITORS AND UPSTARTS,
LIKE MONGRELS PURSUING
A STAG, BUT SOON THE
STAG WILL TURN...

Oh, YES.



ROUTE ONE IS
MINE. I DO
NOT TOLERATE
POACHERS.

IT WAS THREE YEARS
BEFORE I WAS TO
SEE JOAN WEIS AGAIN.

CONGRATULATIONS,
MS. WEIS. YOU'RE
THE YOUNGEST
STUDENT EVER
TO ACHIEVE A
DOCTORATE
AT THIS
INSTITUTION.

THE FUTURE
HOLDS GREAT
THINGS FOR
YOU.

NEITHER OF US
HAD BEEN IDLE.

SHE'D ACHIEVED HER DOCTORATE
IN ASTROPHYSICS, AND MOVED
CLOSER TO THE HEAVENS...



JOAN!

...AND I MOVED
CLOSER TO ENDING
MY REEL.



ROMAN!
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

CAME TO
CONGRATULATE
YOU ON YOUR
DOCTORATE.
COSMIC RADIATION
TRAILS... WOW!



AND
YOU GOT SOME
HIGH-END BIG AT
AD ASTRA INC?

YOU'RE
WELL
INFORMED.

I'M A
DETECTIVE.

I WAS
WONDERING
IF YOU'D HAVE
DINNER WITH
ME...

A
BUNCH OF
US ARE GOING
OUT FOR PIZZA...
WAIT... YES!
WHAT AM I
THINKING?



"I'D LOVE TO."

...AND I'LL
BE WORKING AT
PIC DU MIDI IN THE
PYRENEES. I'VE
BEEN STUDYING
FRENCH FOR SIX
MONTHS...

YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR
THE SURFER, OF
COURSE.

IT'S
PURE RESEARCH.
ROMAN. WHAT
THEY DO WITH
IT IS UP TO
THEM.





COME ON, JOAN,
YOU'RE
OBSESSED
WITH
HIM.

YOU
SUBSCRIBE
TO COSMOS --
YOU'VE GOT EVERY
ARTICLE AND BOOK
EVER PUBLISHED
ABOUT
HIM.



WHY
ARE YOU
SPYING ON
ME?



I'M NOT
SPYING. I
NEED YOUR
HELP.

THE
SURFER IS
RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE DEATH OF
YOUR MOTHER AND
MY PARENTS! AND
HE DOESN'T EVEN
KNOW!

AND
IF HE DID,
HE WOULDN'T
CARE! BUT I'M
NOT GOING TO
LET HIM GET
AWAY WITH
IT!

I KNEW A THING OR TWO
ABOUT OBSESSION. MY
MOM USED TO SAY I WAS
LIKE A MULE...



HE
DIDN'T KILL
ANYONE!
I WAS
THERE!

BESIDES,
WHAT WOULD
YOU DO IF YOU
FOUND HIM?
ARREST HIM?
KILL HIM?

YOU'VE
GOT TO
GET BEYOND
THIS, ROWAN.
IT'S NOT
HEALTHY.

IT'S THE
MOST NATURAL
THING IN THE
WORLD FOR A
MAN TO MAKE
ORDER OF
CHAOS.

WE CREATE A LITTLE ORDER
AND CALL IT CIVILIZATION.
THEN SOME MEN COME
CRASHING THROUGH AND
WE TREAT IT AS AN
ACT OF GOD.

BUT
THEY'RE
NOT GODS.
THEY'RE
MEN.



I WANT
TO LOOK
HIM IN THE EYE
AND ASK IF HE
UNDERSTANDS
WHAT HE'S
DONE.



MAYBE
YOU'LL
GET YOUR
CHANCE.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I'LL
SHOW
YOU...

I KNEW FROM HER RESEARCH THAT JOAN WAS MY BEST SHOT AT TRACKING THE SURFER — AND FIGURING OUT A WAY TO KILL HIM.

I USE AN ELECTRON TELESCOPE. I'VE ESTABLISHED A DATA BASE FOR COSMIC RADIATION TRAILS IN SPACE...

BUT THESE TRAILS ARE YEARS OLD BY THE TIME YOU SEE THEM.

NOT NECESSARILY. I'M HOOKED INTO HUBBELL NOW, AND SOMETIMES I'M JUST MINUTES BEHIND THE EVENT.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING AT?

I'M NOT SURE. I THINK IT'S THOR, ALTHOUGH HIS SIGNATURE SEEMS CHANGED RECENTLY.

CAN'T TAKE EVERYTHING INTO ACCOUNT.

...OR IT COULD BE...

A TRAIL I DISCOVERED LAST WEEK -- YOU CAN ONLY SEE IT THROUGH THIS FILTER...

WHOSE IS IT?

FOR A SECOND, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE SILVER SURFER. I FELT ALIVE AGAIN.

THAT'S WHEN I GOT A WAKE-UP CALL.

KODAK



ARE
YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHAT'S GOING
ON?

I DON'T
KNOW-- IT'S
THE SUN... LET'S
SEE IF I CAN GET
A SATELLITE
VIDEO...

I'LL
PUT IT
ON THE BIG
SCREEN.

THE
SUN'S
GONE CRAZY.
THOSE SUNSPOTS
ARE GOING TO PLAY
HAVOK WITH
WEATHER AND
COMMUNI-
CATIONS.

IS THIS
NATURAL?

NO WAY.
THAT'S THE
ENERGY SIGNATURE
OF QUASAR -- AN
AVENGER. RIGHT
BENEATH IT... I
CAN'T TELL...

IT'S NOT
HUMAN. THERE
ARE SEVERAL ENERGY
SOURCES I CAN'T
IDENTIFY.



DO
YOU THINK
IT'S THE
SURFER?



DEFINITELY
NOT. BUT IT
IS SOME KIND
OF FIGHT.

SOME KIND OF
FIGHT. LIKE THE
ONE THAT KILLED
OUR PARENTS.

ANOTHER ASININE
TANTRUM BETWEEN
VICIOUS CHILDREN
WITH THE POWER TO
DESTROY WORLDS.



THOSE
ARROGANT...
THUGS!

THEY
USE EARTH AS
A BATTLEGROUND
BECAUSE WE
CAN'T STRIKE
BACK!

I
WOULDN'T
SAY THAT. EARTH
HAS ITS DEFENDERS --
BOTH PHYSICAL AND
SCIENTIFIC!

FOR
INSTANCE, MY
RESEARCH MAY
HAVE REVEALED A
FLAW IN THE
SLIRF'S ARMOR.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

ANALYSIS
OF HIS RADIATION
TRAIL HAS GIVEN
CLUES TO HIS
MOLECULAR
STRUCTURE.

I'VE
THEORIZED THAT
AN UNSTABLE
MOLECULE, INJECTED
BENEATH HIS METALLIC
SURFACE, COULD
CAUSE HIM TO
DISSIPATE. IF WE
EVER...

HOW
COULD
YOU DO
THAT?

WITH A
PARTICLE BEAM
PROJECTOR. STARK
INTERNATIONAL'S
PLAYING WITH DEVELOPING
A HAND-HELD PARTICLE
BEAM PROJECTOR... BUT
IT'S ALL JUST
CONJECTURE, ISN'T IT?

THE
SURFER'S
OUR FRIEND.
HE'S FOUGHT TO
PROTECT EARTH.
I DON'T BLAME
HIM FOR MY
MOTHER'S
DEATH.

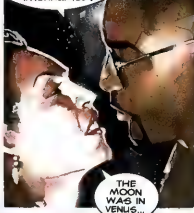
IT WAS
LIKE... LIKE
THE GREEK
GODS, DOING
BATTLE...



...AND
WHEN GODS
FIGHT, PEOPLE
SUFFER.

JOAN,
I'M YOUR
FRIEND. THE SILVER
SURFER DOESN'T
KNOW YOU
EXIST.

I'M SORRY... LOOK,
WHERE WERE WE
BEFORE WE
WERE SO RUDELY
INTERRUPTED?



THE
MOON
WAS IN
VENUS...

THERE
GO THE
LIGHTS.

I WAS HER
FRIEND. I
SUDDENLY
WANTED TO
BE MORE.

STILL, EVEN AS
I KISSED HER,
I WONDERED HOW
I COULD GET A
COPY OF HER
SILVER SURFER
FILE.



SUNSPOTS...

THEN, A MIRACLE.
FOR ONE BLINKING
SECOND, EVERYTHING
DISAPPEARED...

...EXCEPT ME
AND HER.

EIGHT MONTHS
LATER.

ENOUGH!
IF I LET THIS
COMELIX
PROCEED, I'LL
LOSE ALL
RESPECT.

THE FOOL HAS
SUNK THE MEAT OF
HIS FORTUNE INTO A
NEW LUXURY CONDO
DEVELOPMENT
IN QUEENS.

MALTESE,
TAKE CARE
OF IT.

TAKE
A BACK-UP
TEAM. KILL ANY
MEMBERS OF HIS
CARTEL YOU
ENCOUNTER.

WHAT
ABOUT THE
BUILDING?

THE
BUILDING
MUST FALL. GIVE
ANY TENANTS FIVE
MINUTES TO GET OUT,
THEN BRING IT DOWN.
THE KINGPIN IS
NOT WITHOUT
MERCY.

THE
SURVIVORS
WILL KNOW, AND
SPREAD MY
MESSAGE...

YOU
GOT IT, MR.
FISK!

DOC!
DOC
BURNS!

SUN-
SHINE MARY!
WHAT'S
UP?

IT'S
OHIO, DOC!
HE'S GOT THE
D.T.'S-- GOT
'EM BAD!

I TOLD
HIM TO LAY
OFF THE
MUSCATEL.

NAW,
DOC. I BEEN
WATCHIN'! HE AIN'T
HAD NO SALICE--
IT'S LIKE HE'S GOT
A FEVER OR
SOMETHIN'.

ALL
RIGHT.
LET'S HAVE
A LOOK...



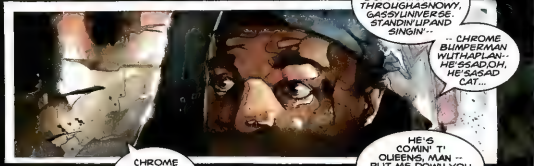
OHIO!
HOW'S IT
HANGIN'?

HE'S
COMIN' HE'S
COMIN' HE'S
COMIN' HE'S
COMIN'...

WHO'S
COMING?

CHROME
BUMPERMAN,
RIDIN SILVER
BOARD... SKATIN'
THROUGH SNOWY,
GASSY UNIVERSE,
STANDIN' UP AND
SINGIN'...

-- CHROME
BUMPERMAN
W/TH A PLAN--
HE'S SAD, OH,
HE'S SAD
CAT...



CHROME
MAN?! THE
SLURPER?
WHERE?

HE'S
COMIN' T'
QUEENS, MAN --
PUT ME DOWN, YOU
CRAZY FOOL -- WHAT
ARE YOU
CRAZY?



WHEN'S?



HOW
SHOULD I
KNOW, YOU
CRAZY FREAK?
SOON!



BEST
DOCTORS
IN THE WORLD
COULDN'T HELP
ME EVEN IF
I COULD PAY
THEM...

LORD,
I'M PRAYING
AGAIN... I
DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF YOU
EXIST...



LORD,
HELP ME... I
DON'T KNOW IF HE'S
YOUR SON OR JUST
SOME FREAK FROM
OLTER SPACE... BUT
IF YOU SENT HIM,
PLEASE HELP
ME.

"FOLKS, WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO HELP
OURSELVES"



...I'M
AFRAID THE
SUPREME COURT
PASSED ON
OUR APPEAL.

WE'RE NOT
GOING TO COLLECT
FROM THE INSURANCE
COMPANIES AND THE
GOVERNMENT
REFUSES AID.



I THINK
OUR NEXT STEP
IS TO TAKE OUR
CASE TO THE MEDIA.
WE SHOULD HOLD A
DEMONSTRATION ON
OCEAN AVENUE, OUTSIDE
THAT ABOMINATION
THAT REPLACED
OUR HOMES!



FIVE YEARS AFTER
THE DISASTER, EVEN
JAY HATHAN WAS
BEGINNING TO WEAR.



BY THAT POINT, I HAD NO
ILLUSIONS. I SKIPPED THE
LAST MEETING OF THE OCEAN
AVENUE SURVIVORS' GROUP.



JOAN'S PAPERS AND MY
OWN RESEARCH LED ME TO
STARK INTERNATIONAL.



LOOK LIKE YOU KNOW
WHERE YOU'RE GOING,
AND PEOPLE WILL LET
YOU IN ANYWHERE.



WHERE'S
ROMAN,
DEAR?

HE'S WORKING, MRS.
TEITELBAUM. HE
COULDN'T MAKE IT.



TONY STARK'S BODY'S
NOT EVEN COOL YET,
AND THE AVENGERS
WERE GOING AT IT ON
HIS FRONT STEPS.

NO PLACE IS SAFE
FROM THEIR POWER
GAMES. BUT JUST
THIS ONCE, THAT
WORKS FOR ME.

SO,
FIND ANY
NEW STARS
LATELY?

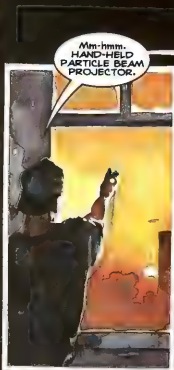
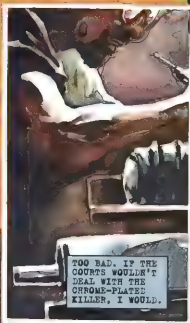
NO, BUT
ACCORDING TO DATA
FROM THE AVENGERS
JUPITER COMBAT,
THE SILVER SURFER
MAY BE HEADED
THIS WAY!

WHEN I
TOLD ROMAN,
HE SEEMED VERY
EXCITED. HE
SAID HE
WANTED...

...OH,
MY
GOD...

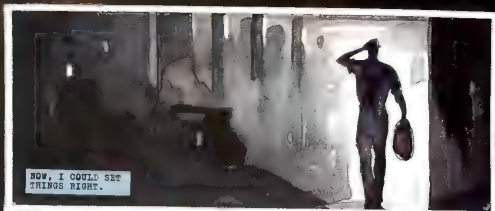
WHAT'S
WRONG,
DEAR?

...I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TOLD
ROMAN.



NOTHING
OUT HERE
BUT THE COLD
ATLANTIC. SO
LET'S SEE IF IT
WORKS.

BREEEEEE



...AFTER ALL THESE YEARS
WE WOULD BE AVENGED.

THE OCEAN AVENUE SURVIVORS' GROUP, HAVING EXHAUSTED ALL LEGAL APPEALS, IS NOW TURNING IN DESPERATION TO PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS TO REVEIVE INTEREST IN THEIR CAUSE...

TV
7

THEIR HOMES WERE DESTROYED OVER FIVE YEARS AGO IN A FIGHT BETWEEN THE SILVER SURFER AND A SUPER-POWERED BEING IDENTIFIED AS TYROS THE DESTROYER.

THE FIGHT INVOLVED THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND LATVERIAN MONARCH, VICTOR VON DOOM...

EVERYBODY'S DISTRACTED UP FRONT -- WE OUGHTA BE CLEAR...

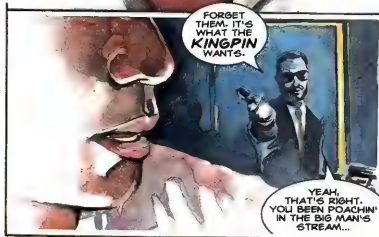
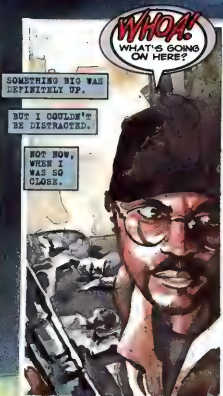
...BUT JUST IN CASE, THE KINGPIN SAYS TO WASTE ANYONE WHO COMES 'ROUND THIS WAY.

HATE TO GET ON HIS BAD SIDE.

WHAT ARE YOU MOOKS DOING HERE?

WRONG TIME.

WRONG PLACE. YOU'RE MEAT, BOY...





FLASH



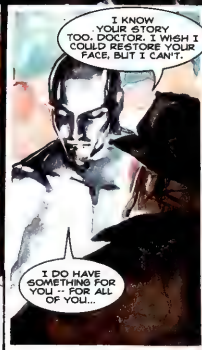
GO AWAY!

IT'S HIM!

THE SURFER!

—GASP!—

MURDERING FREAK!





BORPP BORPP



WASH



AAAAA

BE AT EASE.

WHO -- HOW CAN YOU DO THIS?!

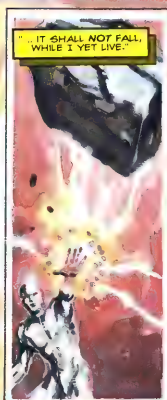
IN AN INSTANT, HE WAS THERE, SILVER HANDS PLUCKING THE FALLING FIGURES FROM THE AIR.

HE SPUN ONCE AROUND THE BUILDING WITH THEM, BEFORE LANDING, COLLECTING SOME PACKAGES.

FROM THE LOOKS OF THE MOOKS I'D TAKEN OUT EARLIER, I COULD GUESS AT THE CONTENTS.

HE WAS HERE TO PLAY THE HERO, ONCE AGAIN.

ONE LAST TIME.





IT'S
GONE...



I'VE
TAKEN BACK
THAT PORTION OF
THE POWER COSMIC
THAT POISONED
YOU.



PLEASE,
GOD, WHAT
ABOUT ME?!
HEAL ME!

I...
AM NO
GOD, DOCTOR. MY
POWERS ARE GREAT,
BUT LIMITED. BUT
I CAN ADVISE
THIS--

-- FORGET
THE CHANGES
TO YOUR FACE.
LOOK FOR THE
CHANGES OF HEART,
AND YOU WILL
DO GREAT
THINGS.



A CLINIC... I COULD USE
SOME OF THE MONEY TO
REALLY HELP... MY
FRIENDS...

I CAN
STILL WORK...
AND THEY
NEED ME...



SURFER,
I HAVE
SO MANY
QUESTIONS...



I
GOT ONLY
ONE.

ROMAN!

WILL
YOU DIE
WHEN I
PULL THIS
TRIGGER?

MY
PARENTS NEVER
HAD A CHANCE.
THEY WERE ANTS TO
YOU, CAUGHT
UNDERFOOT.

I
WISH YOU
COULD SUFFER
LIKE THEY
LIKE WE'VE
SUFFERED.



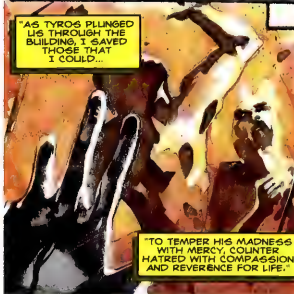
ROME,
NO!
WHY ARE
YOU DOING
THIS?



GET OUT OF
HERE, JOAN. I'M
DOING THIS
FOR US.

NOT
FOR ME!
NEVER FOR ME!
IF YOU WANT TO
DO SOMETHING
FOR ME, PUT
IT AWAY!

I HAVE
HAD ENOUGH
BLOOD ON MY
HANDS. I'LL HAVE
NO MORE.
GO.



"AS TYROS PLUNGED
US THROUGH THE
BUILDING, I SAVED
THOSE THAT
I COULD...

"TO TEMPER HIS MADNESS
WITH MERCY, COUNTER
HATRED WITH COMPASSION
AND REVERENCE FOR LIFE."



BUT I
DO BEAR
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR YOUR PARENTS'
DEATH, ROMAN
STEWART.

AND
YOURS,
JOAN
WEIS.



I'D
GLADLY TRADE
MY LIFE FOR
THEIRS. I KNOW
WHAT IT IS TO
LOSE A LOVED
ONE.

BUT IF
THIS HATRED
IS THE GREATEST
THING IN YOUR
LIFE, PULL THE
TRIGGER.

IF
LOVE CANNOT
CONQUER HATRED,
THEN I SHALL
RETURN TO EARTH
NO MORE.

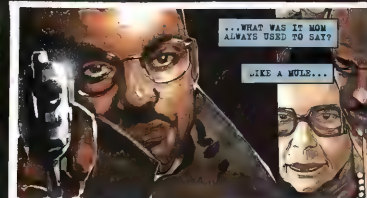


GOT
THAT
RIGHT.

I'M DOING THIS FOR MY
FOLKS... IT'S WHAT
THEY WOULD'VE WANTED.
ISN'T IT?

ISN'T IT?

I'VE BEEN SO FILLED
ON THIS DREAM OF
REVENGE, NOW THAT
I HAVE IT...



...WHAT WAS IT NOW
ALWAYS USED TO SAY?

LIKE A MULE...



I'M LIKE THAT
OLD COUNTRY
MULE...



...YOU GOT TO HIT
ME IN THE HEAD WITH
A TWO-BY-FOUR TO
GET MY ATTENTION.

I
LOVE YOU,
ROMAN.

WRAM.



I LOVE
YOU, TOO,
JOAN.

HOORAY!

HOORAY!



WAIT --
WHERE'S THE
SURFER?



HE'S
GONE...

JOAN KEEPS ME
GROUNDED. SHE
IS MY ANCHOR.

NATHAN SPLIT THE
REVENUE FROM THE
SALE OF THE
DIAMOND AMONG THE
SURVIVORS --



-- BUT FOR A CHUNK FOR
A MEMORIAL IN THE LOBBY.
BOTH THE MAYOR AND THE
FP SHOWED UP AT THE
UNVEILING.

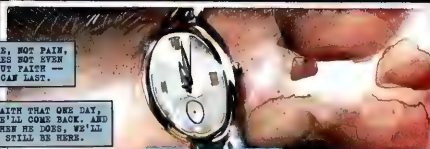


CLYDE TURNED THE PLACE
OO-OP, AND GAVE EVERY
ORIGINAL TENANT A UNIT.
HE WAS IN REMISSION,
WITH NO PROMISES.

BUT THEN, NOTHING IS
CERTAIN, NOTHING IS
FOREVER.

NOT HATE, NOT PAIN,
SOMETIMES NOT EVEN
LOVE. BUT FAITH --
THAT CAN LAST.

FAITH THAT ONE DAY,
HE'LL COME BACK. AND
WHEN HE DOES, WE'LL
STILL BE HERE.





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THE THINKER

SYL3NT BOB